



Note
"prism"
star

We asked to
clean up
artwork -
AGI indicated
"due to casting."
this is as clear
as it comes."

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Oklahoma

The Great Seal of Oklahoma



The Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma is a tribute to the state's Indian heritage and its hope for the future. The central design consists of one large star, representing the state of Oklahoma, surrounded by 45 small stars, representing each of the other states of the Union. The large star that symbolizes Oklahoma features five radiating arms, one for each of the five Civilized Indian Nations. The top ray is for the Chickasaw Nation, and holds a warrior with a bow and a shield. The upper right ray represents the Choctaw Nation, with

a bow, three arrows, and a tomahawk. The lower right ray represents the Seminole Nation, with a hunter in a canoe. The lower left ray is for the Creek Nation, and holds a sheaf of wheat and a plow. And the upper left ray is the seal of the Cherokee Nation, with a seven-pointed star and a wreath of oak leaves. The center of the main star shows an Indian shaking hands with a white man, symbolizing the merging of cultures. Olive branches encircle this image, representing the hope for peace. The state motto "Labor Omnia Vincit", or "Labor Conquers All", displays on the seal, and the entire seal is ringed with "Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma 1907".

State Constitution: Article VI, Section 35, [Description of seal](#)

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OKLAHOMA STATE ICONS

STATE FLAG



The present Oklahoma State Flag adopted by the State Legislature in 1925, is Oklahoma's 14th flag. This shows a sky blue field with a central device: an Indian war shield of tan buckskin showing small crosses on the face -- the Indian design for stars -- and seven eagle feathers pendent for the edge of the shield. An Indian peace pipe (calumet) with a pipestone bowl and a tassel at the end of the pipestem lies on the shield; above the Indian peace pipe is an olive branch, the white man's emblem of peace. Underneath the shield or design in white letters is the word "Oklahoma."



STATE SEAL



Oklahoma has for its state seal a symbol that was developed from the history of the state. The central figures and wreath are from the Great Seal of the Territory of Oklahoma. In each of the five rays of the main star in the Great Seal of the state is the official seal of one of the Five Civilized Indian Nations that together comprised most of the area of present eastern Oklahoma. The upward ray depicts the seal of the Chickasaw Nation with an Indian warrior holding a bow and shield. In the upper left-hand ray is the seven-pointed star bearing a wreath of oak leaves which comprises the seal of the Cherokee Nation. The emblem of the Choctaw Nation is in the upper right-hand ray and is composed of a tomahawk, a bow, and three crossed arrows. In the lower left-hand ray is the seal of the Creek Nation, depicted by a sheaf of wheat and a plow. The lower right-hand ray shows houses, and a factory on the shore of a lake, on which is an Indian hunter paddling a canoe and this comprises the seal of the Seminole Nation. Forty-five small stars surround the central star and these represent the forty-five states that made up the Union at the time Oklahoma became a state on November 16, 1907.

STATE BIRD



Scissor-Tailed Flycatcher *Muscivora forficata*, is a somewhat quiet bird with beautiful plumage and a long sleek tail that is twice as long as its body. The deeply-forked tail resembles a pair of scissors. The Scissor Tailed Flycatcher has a black and white tail, a dark gray back, a light gray chest and head and has pale orange red coloring beneath its wings.

STATE FLORAL EMBLEM

Mistletoe *phoradendron serotinum* the oldest of Oklahoma's symbols, adopted in 1893 -- 14 years before statehood. Mistletoe grows on trees throughout the state and is particularly bountiful in the southern regions of Oklahoma. The dark green leaves and white berries show up brightly



during the fall and winter in trees that have shed their own leaves.

STATE ANIMAL

Buffalo *Bison bison*. The American Buffalo, or Bison, is a massive animal that weighs from 800 to 2,000 pounds and stands nearly six feet high at the shoulder. A large head, high hump on the shoulders and dark brown shaggy hair characterize the buffalo.

STATE FISH

White or Sand Bass *Morone chrysops*. The White Bass, also called a Sand Bass, is dark blue-green on top, with silvery sides, a white belly and black horizontal stripes running along the length of its body.

STATE GAME BIRD Wild Turkey

STATE REPTILE

Collared Lizard (Mountain Boomer) *Crotaphytus collaris*. The Mountain Boomer, or Collard Lizard, is a pretty turquoise blue collar except for its head and neck, which is bright yellow with black stripes along its neck.

STATE FURBEARER Raccoon

STATE TREE



Redbud *Cercis canadensis*. The Redbud grows in the valleys and ravines of Oklahoma. In early spring, its reddish-pink blossoms brighten the landscape throughout the state.

STATE ROCK

Rose Rock *Barite rose*. Rocks resembling full-grown roses were formed by barite rock crystals during the Permian Age and are found in a few



rare places around the globe. In Oklahoma, the distinctive red soil colors them in hues ranging from reddish brown to cinnamon. An old Cherokee legend says the rocks represent the blood of the braves and the tears of the maidens who made the devastating "Trail of Tears" journey in the 1800s to Oklahoma.

STATE WILDFLOWER



Indian Blanket *Gaillardia pulchella*. The Indian Blanket is a red flower with yellow tips. It symbolizes Oklahoma's scenic beauty as well as the state's Indian heritage. Indian Blanket flowers bloom in June and July.

OTHER STATE ICONS:

BUTTERFLY: black swallowtail

PERCUSSIVE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT: drum

COLORS: green and white

MEAL: fried okra, squash, cornbread, barbecue pork, biscuits, sausage and gravy, grits, corn, strawberries, chicken fried steak, pecan pie, and black-eyed peas.

MOTTO: *Labor Omnia Vincit* (Labor Conquers All Things)

FOLK DANCE: Square Dance

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT: Fiddle

GAME ANIMAL: White-tail deer

GRASS: Indiangrass *Sorghastrum nutans*

INSECT: Honeybee *Apis mellifera*

COUNTRY & WESTERN SONG: "Faded Love"

BEVERAGE: Milk

SOIL: Port Silt Loam *cumulic haplustolls*

THEATER: Lynn Riggs Players of Oklahoma, Inc.

WALTZ: "Oklahoma Wind"

NICKNAME: Sooner State

POEM: "Howdy Folks"; by David Randolph Milsten

Text and photos from the 1997-1998 *Oklahoma Almanac*, [Oklahoma Department of Libraries](#).



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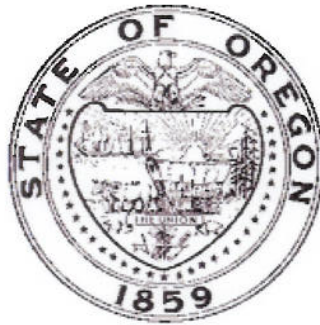


Oregon

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The Great Seal of Oregon



Oregon's state seal proudly displays an American eagle, with wings outstretched, atop a shield rich with symbols of the 33rd state. The sun sets over the Pacific Ocean as a British man-of-war sails away, symbolizing the end of British influence in Oregon's affairs. Another ship, an American merchant, sails toward the shore, symbolizing the independence and power of America's ships and commerce. Oregon's forests and mountains stand tall in the scene. The role of the state's settlers is represented by a covered

wagon and team of oxen. A magnificent elk represents the state's wildlife resources. A sheaf of wheat and a plow symbolize the state's agricultural potential, and a pickax represents its mineral wealth. A banner proclaims "The Union". An arc of 33 stars represents each of the states of the Union, and around the perimeter of the seal are the words "State of Oregon 1859".

State [Statute](#).

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**ORS 186.020 Description of state seal.**

The description of the seal of the State of Oregon shall be an escutcheon, supported by 33 stars, and divided by an ordinary, with the inscription, "The Union." In chief mountains, an elk with branching antlers, a wagon, the Pacific Ocean, on which there are a British man-of-war departing and an American steamer arriving. The second quartering with a sheaf, plow and a pickax. Crest The American eagle. Legend – State of Oregon, 1859

The authority to manage use of the Oregon State Seal is granted to the Secretary of State by the Oregon State Constitution, Article VI, Section 3, which reads:

Article VI Section 3. Seal of state.

There shall be a seal of State, kept by the Secretary of State for official purposes, which shall be called "The seal of the State of Oregon".

Use of the Oregon State Seal is restricted by statute. Oregon Revised Statute 186.023 reads as follows:

ORS 186.023, governs use of the Oregon State Seal:

(1) Except as authorized by the Secretary of State, no person shall knowingly use any device, or possess any device capable of such use, to emboss upon a document the seal of the State of Oregon described in ORS 186.020. (2) No person shall use any reproduction of the seal of the State of Oregon: (a) In any manner falsely implying official endorsement or sponsorship by the State of Oregon or any of its agencies of any product, business, service or other activity; or (b) In any manner that subjects or exposes the seal of the State of Oregon to ridicule, debasement or infamy.

Questions about the appropriate use of the state seal should be directed to the office of the Secretary of State. Any complaints of misuse of the state seal should also be directed to that office. Civil penalties up to \$500, per occurrence, will be assessed for violations of ORS 186.023 pursuant to ORS 186.025.

Violations are prosecuted by the Oregon Department of Justice.



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History of the Seal of the State of Pennsylvania

Symbols play an important role in all of our lives. One of the most significant symbols in the history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is the Great Seal. Though currently kept by the Secretary of the Commonwealth in the Department of State, the Great Seal has a rich and varied history all its own, dating from March 4, 1681, and the signing of the Charter of King Charles II of England to William Penn. From this date, the Great Seal has traversed over 300 years, numerous changes in appearance and use, and a revolution. The seal we have today is certainly not the same seal that existed in 1681; however, the idea of using a seal to legitimize all official documents originated in that year.

Prior to the Revolutionary War, there were three types of seals in use in Pennsylvania. These were the Great Seal, the Lesser Seal and the Seal at Arms. The Provincial Great Seal was composed of the arms of the Penn family (a shield crossed horizontally by a fess or band, bearing three torteaux or biscuit, and the motto, "Mercy, Justice") with the shield and motto surrounded by the words, "William Penn, Proprietor and Governor of Pennsylvania." The counterseal displayed three radiating ears of Indian corn within a circumferential band bearing the word "Truth, Peace, Love, Plenty," surrounded by another band of olive branches. The Lesser Seal was exactly the same as the Great Seal, or reduced, and having no counterseal. Very little is known about the Seal at Arms. It appears to have varied from administration to administration according to the fancy of the governor.

The Great Seal has not always been in the Possession of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and was never held by the Provincial Secretary. Prior to 1776, there was an office called, "Keeper of the Great Seal." This office originated on October 27, 1683, and was first held by Thomas Lloyd.

The first mention of the Great Seal is contained in the Constitution of 1776. Section sixteen of that document provided for a seal of the General Assembly to be affixed to all bills as soon as they were enacted and used for no other purpose. The seal was given the title "seal of the laws of Pennsylvania." Section twenty-one provided for a state seal, to be used on all commissions, under the authority of the freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and kept by the Supreme Executive Council. Neither of these seals were the Great Seal; though together they fulfilled all of the duties of the current seal.

The Great Seal was given official recognition in 1790. Although the constitution of the same year contained no provision for a state seal, Article 6, Section 4, recognized its existence and the first bill passed under the new constitution itemized its uses.

'Be it enacted therefore...Great Seal, lately in custody of the Supreme Executive Council, is hereby constituted the State Seal, and shall be affixed to all patents, proclamations, and other public rolls, commissions and papers of state, which require the Great Seal of the Commonwealth and to which the same has heretofore been usually applied.'

The Great Seal did not remain in the possession of the Supreme Executive Council for very long after it was constituted. On March 1, 1791 a bill was passed enumerating the duties of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Possession of the Great and Lesser Seals were contained in the first duty assigned to the secretary, along with the responsibility to, "affix them, respectively, to all public instruments which the attestation of the governor's signature now is or shall hereafter be required by law."

It was not until 1893 that the design for the Great Seal was stabilized. The symbols which make up the seal include an eagle, representing the State's sovereignty; a plow, standing for generosity and devotion; and wheat, illustrating the abundance of harvests.

The Great Seal continues to be kept in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and authenticate official documents, as it has since 1791. Any seal found on anything but an official document is either not the Great Seal, or a misuse of the Seal.

Reprinted from "A History of the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Department of State and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." Published by the Pennsylvania Department of State, 1986. Reprinted from "PA History of the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Department of State and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." Published by the Pennsylvania Department of State, 1986.



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Pennsylvania

The Great Seal of Pennsylvania



Pennsylvania's 1776 Constitutional Convention authorized that a state seal should be established. A seal similar to today's Great Seal began to be used, and in 1790 the General Assembly officially recognized a Great Seal. In 1791, possession of the Great Seal passed from the Supreme Executive Council to the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The central image on the seal is a crest containing a ship under full sail, a plow, and three sheaves of wheat.

These symbols represent the importance of commerce, labor, perseverance, and agriculture to the state's economy. On either side of the crest are a stalk of Indian corn and an olive branch, representing the state's recognition of its past and hopes for the future. Atop the shield an eagle proudly symbolizes the state's sovereignty. The outer ring of the seal bears the words "Seal of the State of Pennsylvania".

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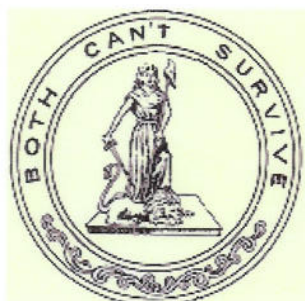
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Obverse

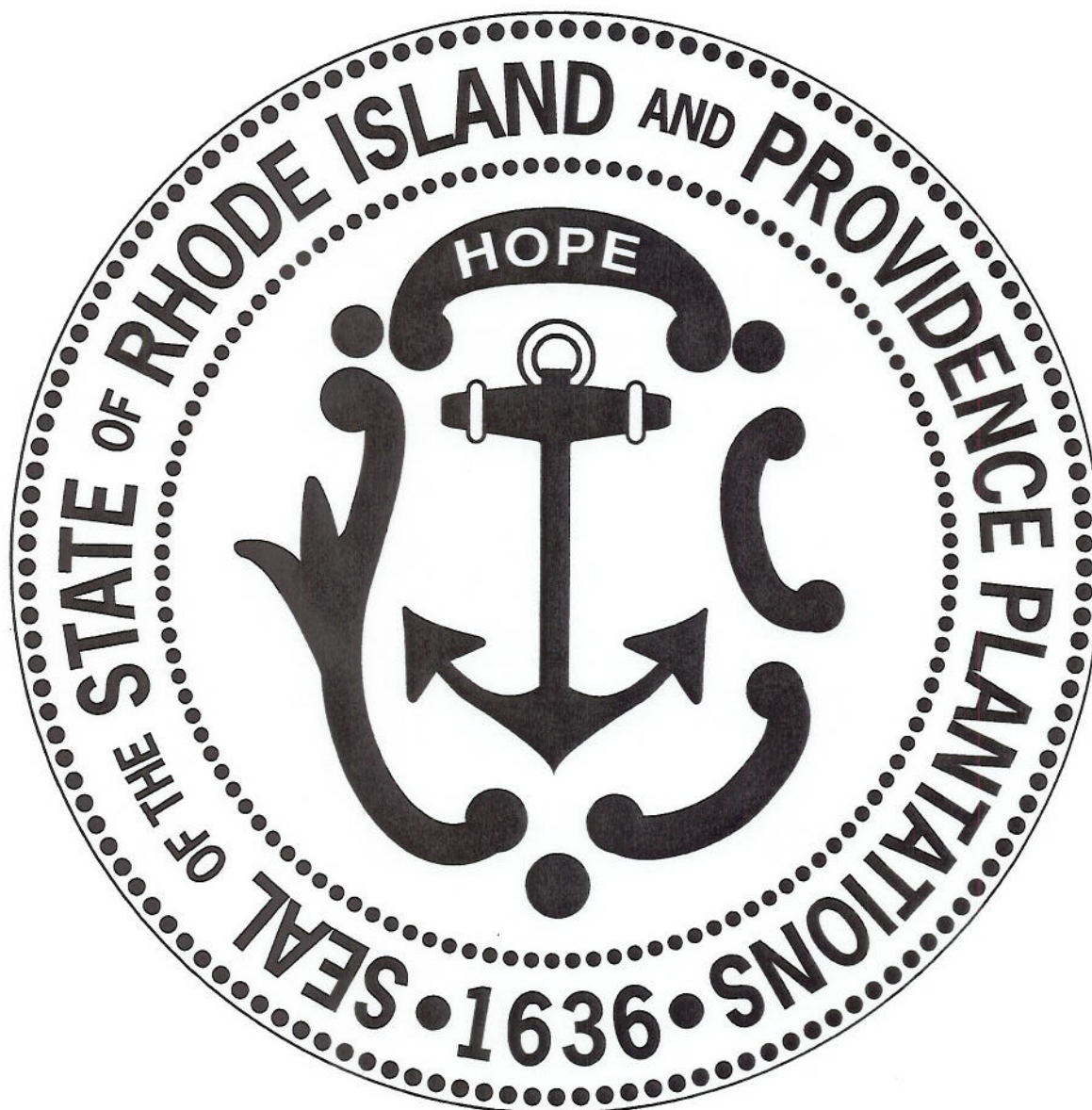


Reverse

The OBERSE, or front, of the seal contains a shield, upon which are emblazoned a sailing ship, a plough, and three sheaves of wheat. To the left of the shield is a stalk of Indian corn; to the right, an olive branch. The shield's crest is an eagle, and the entire design is encircled by the inscription "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." These three symbols--the plough, the ship, and the sheaves of wheat--have, despite minor changes through the years, remained the traditional emblems of Pennsylvania's State Seal. They were first found in the individual seals of several colonial Pennsylvania counties, which mounted their own identifying crests above the existing Penn Coat of Arms. Chester County's crest was a plough; Philadelphia County's crest was a ship under full sail; Sussex County, Delaware (then a part of provincial Pennsylvania) used a sheaf of wheat as its crest. The shield of the City of Philadelphia contained both a sheaf of wheat and a ship under sail. It was a combination of these sources that provided the three emblems now forming the obverse of the State Seal.

The REVERSE of this seal shows a woman, who represents liberty. Her left hand holds a wand topped by a liberty cap, a French symbol of liberty. In her right hand is a drawn sword. She is trampling upon Tyranny, represented by a lion. The entire design is encircled by the legend "Both Can't Survive".

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Rhode Island

The Great Seal of Rhode Island



The seal of the State of Rhode Island features a maritime anchor as its central image. The anchor has been used as a symbol for Rhode Island for hundreds of years, well before the region claimed statehood. When the Providence Plantations were organized in the mid 1600's, the anchor was used then as the seal of the province. The anchor is also the prominent image on Rhode Island's flag. The word "Hope" was placed over the seal's anchor in 1644, and still remains. The outer circle of the seal reads "Seal of the State of Rhode

Island and Providence Plantations 1636".

State [Statute](#).

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TITLE 42

State Affairs and Government

CHAPTER 42-4

State Emblems

SECTION 42-4-2

§ 42-4-2 State seal. – There shall continue to be one seal for the public use of the state; the form of an anchor shall be engraven thereon; the motto thereof shall be the word "Hope"; and in a circle around the outside shall be engraven the words, "Seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, 1636".



THE ROTUNDA STATE SEAL

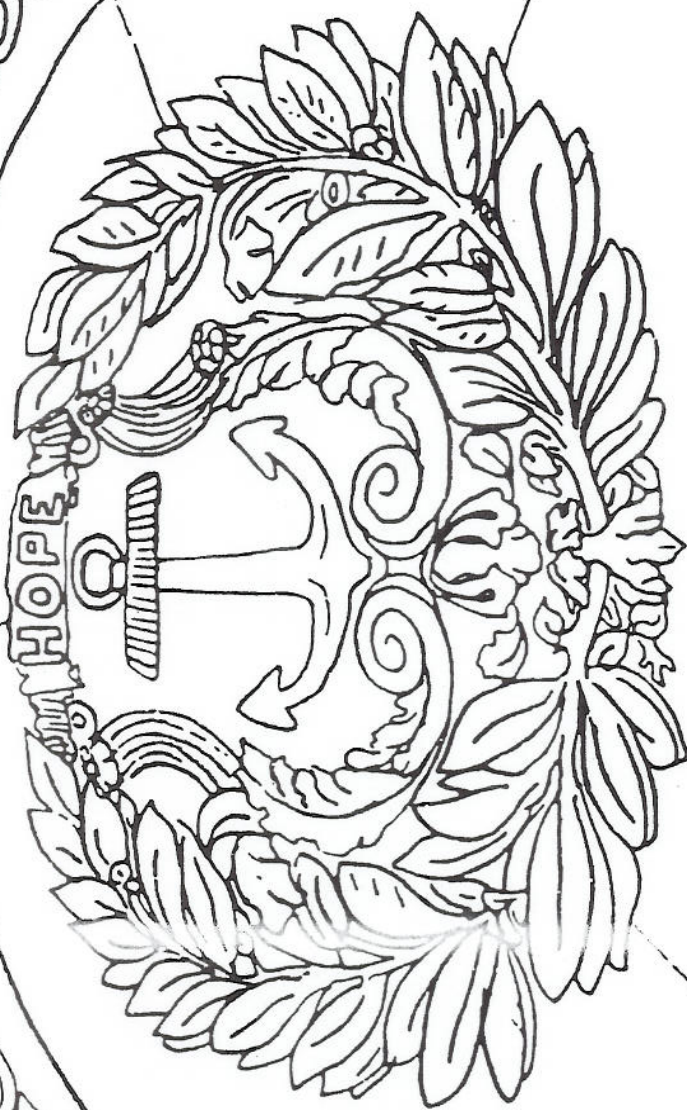
A rotunda is a large round room which often has a dome ceiling. In the middle of our rotunda, on the center of the floor, you will see a beautiful brass replica of the State Seal. It is golden in appearance and is embedded into the marble floor. It is encircled with a velvet rope to keep it protected.

An anchor is in the center of the seal. The anchor is a symbol of hope. It also reminds us of water. As you know, Rhode Island is called the "Ocean State". This is because Rhode Island has over 400 miles of shoreline. This is amazing because our state is only 48 miles from north to south and 37 miles from east to west.

Above the anchor is the word "Hope", our State's motto. One reason that we use this motto is because the word is found in a famous quote from our State's founder. Roger Williams told the early settlers to have "Hope in the Divine".

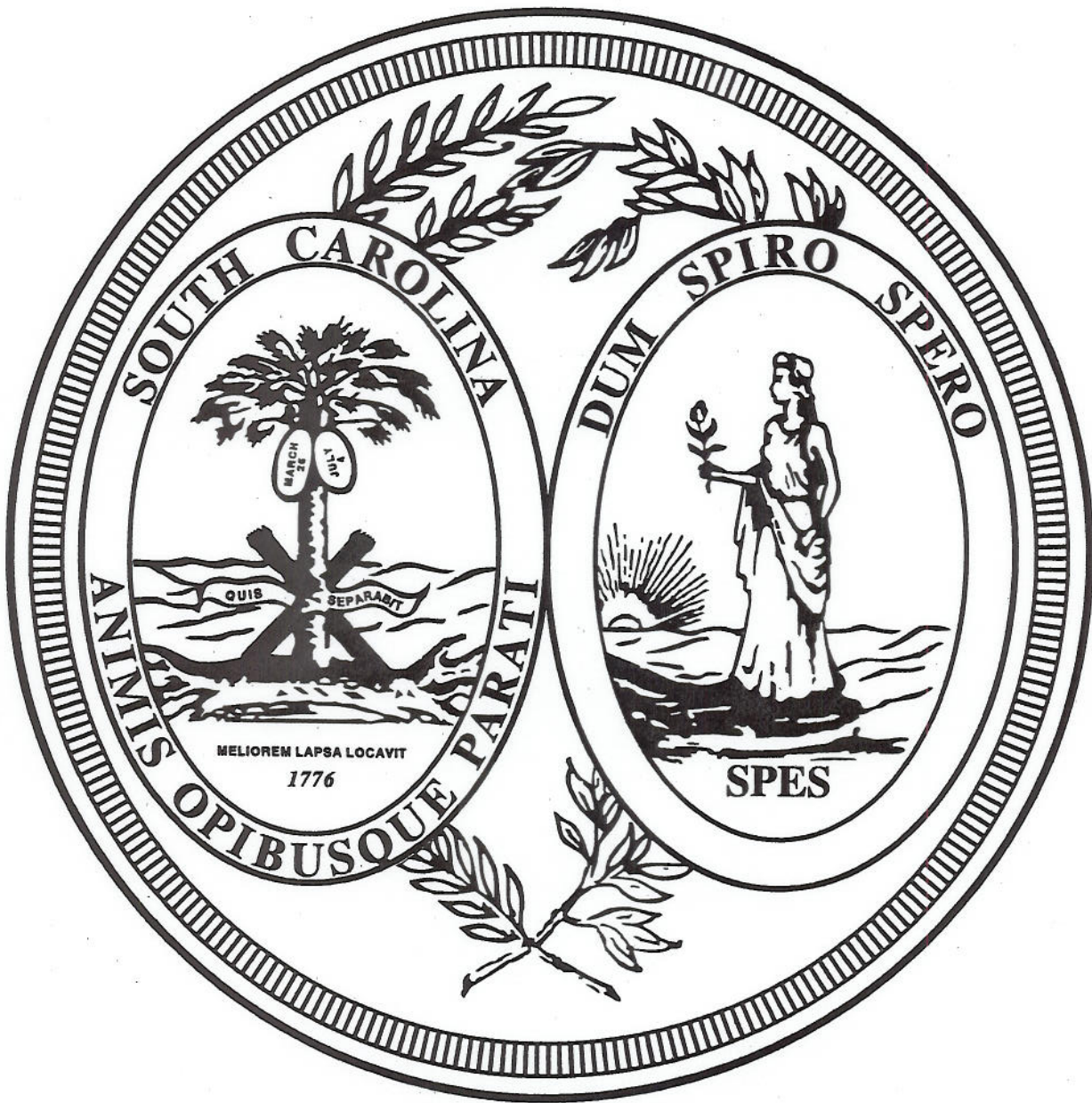
A garland of leaves surrounds the shield which holds the anchor. Around the seal are the words: "Seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 1636." Don't you think it's interesting that our's is the smallest state with the longest name?

SEAL OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS



1639






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The State Seal



On March 26, 1776, the Provincial Congress of South Carolina declared independent government, electing John Rutledge, President. On the President and Privy Council were authorized by Resolution of the Assembly "to design and cause to be made a Great Seal of South Carolina."

After the Declaration of Independence, a design for the arms of the great seal, prepared by William Henry Drayton, a member of the Council, was accepted, together with a design for the reverse, which had been designed by Arthur Middleton.

Both designs were turned over to an engraver in Charleston : as a great seal, which was used by Pres. Rutledge for the first time in 1777. The Seal was made in form of a circle, four inches in diameter and tenths of an inch thick.

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Both the arms and reverse symbolize the battle fought on June 28, 1778, between the unnamed, and unfinished fort at Sullivan's Island (now Moultrie), and the British Fleet.

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South Carolina

The Great Seal of South Carolina



South Carolina's Great Seal was authorized by resolution of the General Assembly on April 2, 1776. The seal is made up of two distinct elliptical areas, linked by branches of the palmetto tree. The image on the left is dominated by a tall palmetto tree and another tree, fallen and broken. This scene represents the battle fought on June 28, 1776 between defenders of the unfinished fort on Sullivan's Island, and the British Fleet. Of course, the standing tree represents the victorious defenders, and the

fallen tree is the British Fleet. Banded together on the palmetto with the motto "Quis Separabit?" ("Who Will Separate?"), are 12 spears that represent the first 12 states of the Union. Surrounding the image, at the top, is "South Carolina", and below, is "Animis Opibusque Parati", or "Prepared in Mind and Resources". The other image on the seal depicts a woman walking along a shore that is littered with weapons. The woman, symbolizing Hope, grasps a branch of laurel as the sun rises behind her. Below her image is the word "Spes", or "Hope", and over the image is the motto "Dum Spiro Spero", or "While I Breathe I Hope".

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